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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/735,488	12/14/2000	Masatoshi Takaira	018656-196	8369

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EXAMINER

LETT, THOMAS J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/05/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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<p align="center">Office Action Summary</p>	Application No. 09/735,488	Applicant(s) TAKAIRA ET AL.	
	Examiner Thomas J. Lett	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-17,19 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-17,19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12 July 2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, and 7-16, 17, 19 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-5, and 7-16, 17, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagashima et al (USPN 5,581,613) in view of Ambalavanar et al (USPN 5,579,452 A).

With respect to claim 1, Nagashima et al disclose a digital copying machine (color copying apparatus 35, Fig. 4) comprising:

an image reader (scanner unit 42, Fig. 4) that reads an image of the original document and generates image data,

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a printing unit (printing unit 43, Fig. 4) that prints based on print image data, an internal bus (see Fig. 4, the bus extends from circuit 50 to scanner 42 and printer 43) that transmits the scan image data generated by the image reader (scanner unit 42) to the controller (external controller 4, col. 3, lines 7-9) and that transmits the print image data from the controller to the printing unit (color image data is supplied by the controller 34 to the printing unit 43),

a signal generator (image clock, Fig. 5) that generates a signal based on an operation timing (this is inherently done since an image sync signal would be in synchronization with the printer when the data is intended for printing) of the printing unit (printing unit 43, Fig. 4), and

Nagashima fails to teach a a controller through which the scan image data and the print image data are exchanged with an external computer, and a switch that, in response to the signal, switches the internal bus between transmission from the image reader to the controller and transmission from the controller to the printing unit.

Ambalavanar et al teach a printing machine 12 containing a control module 16 that controls scan data from the scanner 18 to the control module as well as print data from the controller 16 to the printer 20 on a VBus, see figure 1 and related disclosure. The print data and scan data are transferred simultaneously on a Xerox DocuTech™ printer's Vbus. The multitasking also includes storage and decomposition of image data. Nagashima and Ambalavanar et al are analogous art because they are from the similar problem solving area of data management. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to add the concurrent transfer of print and scan data of Ambalavanar et al to Nagashima in order to obtain a device capable of simultaneous multitasking on a single bus. The motivation for doing so would be to save resources.

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With respect to claim 2, Nagashima et al disclose a digital copying machine as claimed in claim 1, said signal generated by the signal generator (image clock, col. 3, line 33) is a clock signal issued based on an operation timing for each pixel (image sync signal, col. 3, line 33).

With respect to claim 3, Nagashima et al disclose a digital copying machine as claimed in claim 1, said signal generated by the signal generator is a horizontal synchronization signal issued based on an operation timing for each line (see Figs. 2 and 5).

With respect to claim 4, Nagashima et al disclose a digital copying machine as claimed in claim 1, said bus includes a read buffer that temporarily stores the image data read by the image reader (FIFO buffer 141 is shown in Fig. 6).

With respect to claim 5, Nagashima et al disclose a digital copying machine as claimed in claim 1, said bus includes a print buffer that temporarily stores the image data sent by the external computer (FIFO buffer 133 is shown in Fig. 6).

Claim 7, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 1.

Claim 8, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 2.

Claim 9, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 3.

Claim 10, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 4.

Claim 11, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 5.

Claim 12, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 1.

Claim 13, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 2.

Claim 14, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 3.

Claim 15, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 4.

Claim 16, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as that of claim 5.

With respect to claim 17, Nagashima et al does not disclose that the switch switches the bus between transmission from the image reader to the controller and transmission from the controller to the printing unit and back again repeatedly and at predetermined fixed intervals.

Ambalavanar et al teach a printing machine 12 containing a control module 16 that controls scan data from the scanner 18 to the control module as well as print data from the controller 16 to the printer 20 on a VBus, see figure 1 and related disclosure. A timing interval is taught in the printer timing diagram of figure 8 wherein various printer processing signals are assigned a certain timing slot. The print data and scan data are transferred simultaneously on a Xerox DocuTech™ printer's Vbus. The multitasking transfer also includes storage and decomposition of image data. Nagashima and Ambalavanar et al are analogous art because they are from the similar problem solving area of data management. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to add the concurrent transfer of print and scan data of Ambalavanar et al to Nagashima in order to obtain a device capable of simultaneous multitasking on a single bus. The motivation for doing so would be to save resources.

With respect to claim 19, Nagashima et al does not disclose switching the bus between transmission from the image reader to the controller and transmission from the controller to the printing unit and back again repeatedly and at predetermined fixed intervals.

Ambalavanar et al teach a printing machine 12 containing a control module 16 that controls scan data from the scanner 18 to the control module as well as print data from the controller 16 to the printer 20 on a VBus, see figure 1 and related disclosure. A timing interval is taught in the printer timing diagram of figure 8 wherein various printer processing signals are assigned a certain timing slot. The print data and scan data are transferred simultaneously on a Xerox DocuTech™ printer's Vbus. The multitasking transfer also includes storage and

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decomposition of image data. Nagashima and Ambalavanar et al are analogous art because they are from the similar problem solving area of data management. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to add the concurrent transfer of print and scan data of Ambalavanar et al to Nagashima in order to obtain a device capable of simultaneous multitasking on a single bus. The motivation for doing so would be to save resources.

With respect to claim 20, Nagashima et al does not disclose that the switching means switches the internal bus between transmission from the image reader to the controller and transmission from the external computer to the printing unit and back again repeatedly and at predetermined fixed intervals.

Ambalavanar et al teach a printing machine 12 containing a control module 16 that controls scan data from the scanner 18 to the control module as well as print data from the controller 16 to the printer 20 on a VBus, see figure 1 and related disclosure. A timing interval is taught in the printer timing diagram of figure 8 wherein various printer processing signals are assigned a certain timing slot. The print data and scan data are transferred simultaneously on a Xerox DocuTech™ printer's Vbus. The multitasking transfer also includes storage and decomposition of image data. Nagashima and Ambalavanar et al are analogous art because they are from the similar problem solving area of data management. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to add the concurrent transfer of print and scan data of Ambalavanar et al to Nagashima in order to obtain a device capable of simultaneous multitasking on a single bus. The motivation for doing so would be to save resources.

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Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 6 and 18 are allowed, as previously indicated.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas J. Lett whose telephone number is (571) 272-7464. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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